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Raids on Reds Net Small Fry

PARIS, Oct. 8 (AP)—Police swooped down on Communist newspapers and offices throughout France today. They arrested about a dozen small-fry Reds.

The National Defense Ministry said the raids were ordered by a Paris military tribunal looking for evidence on which to bring charges against Communists for trying to demoralize the army, the nation, and threaten the security of France.

The Communists knew the police were coming, however, and presumably had taken precautions to put any incriminating papers in hiding. Communist papers had published stories that the raids were imminent.

It was almost inevitable that the bag should consist only of little-known local Red leaders, for the top Communists are all deputies in the National Assembly and thus protected by parliamentary immunity.

Police raided the two main Communist Party newspapers, L'Humanite and Ce Soir, and also the Commercial Bank of Northern Europe. In 1948, Jules Moch, then Minister of the Interior, told Parliament the bank's stock "belongs almost entirely to two Soviet banks and its president is a naturalized Russian."

In Marseille, police were reported to have found only films. There were no documents and no arms, and in most cases Communists were on hand to greet the police.

The story was about the same everywhere—Bordeaux, an important port with large United States Army installations; Limoges in central France, Lille in the north, Nancy in the east, Toulouse in the southwest and Vincennes in the suburbs of Paris, where the Communists have a school.

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